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# **PRELIMINARY DRAFT**

## **No. 3427**

**PREPARED BY**  
**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY**  
**2013 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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### **DIGEST**

**Citations Affected:** IC 12-7-2-146; IC 12-17.2.

**Synopsis:** Child care facility quality rating program. Establishes the "paths to quality" program, a quality rating system for child care facilities. Requires the division of family resources to adopt rules to administer the program. Requires achievement of first level certification under the rating system as a minimum standard for eligibility for participation in the federal Child Care and Development Fund voucher program.

**Effective:** July 1, 2013.



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning human services.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1. IC 12-7-2-146, AS AMENDED BY P.L.110-2010, SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 146. "Program" refers to the following:

(1) For purposes of IC 12-8-12.5, the meaning set forth in IC 12-8-12.5-1.

(2) For purposes of IC 12-10-7, the adult guardianship services program established by IC 12-10-7-5.

(3) For purposes of IC 12-10-10, the meaning set forth in IC 12-10-10-5.

**(4) For purposes of IC 12-17.2, the paths to quality program established by IC 12-17.2-2-14.**

~~(4)~~ **(5)** For purposes of IC 12-17.6, the meaning set forth in IC 12-17.6-1-5.

SECTION 2. IC 12-17.2-2-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 14. **(a) The paths to quality program is established. The program is a voluntary child care facility quality rating and improvement system implemented by the division in partnership with the following:**

**(1) Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children.**

**(2) Indiana Association for Child Care Resource and Referral.**

**(3) Indiana Head Start Collaboration Office.**

**(4) Indiana Department of Education.**

**(5) Early Childhood Alliance.**

**(6) 4 C's of Southern Indiana.**

**(b) The program must use four (4) levels by which to rate the quality of a child care facility, with "level 4" indicating the highest level of quality.**

**(c) The division shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to administer the paths to quality rating program. The rules must include procedures that outline eligibility and application procedures for**



1 the paths to quality program, the establishment of procedures  
2 relating to the rating process, and the establishment or alteration  
3 of standards used in the rating process.

4 (d) The division shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish  
5 the steering council of the paths to quality program to make  
6 recommendations to the division on paths to quality program  
7 issues and resources. Rules adopted under this subsection must  
8 require that council members be appointed from partner  
9 organizations that assist in the implementation of the program.

10 SECTION 3. IC 12-17.2-3.5-5.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2005,  
11 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
12 JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 5.5. (a) A provider shall ensure that a child in the  
13 provider's care is continually supervised by a caregiver.

14 (b) A provider who operates a child care program in the provider's  
15 home (including a child care home licensed under IC 12-17.2-5) and  
16 who receives a voucher payment under this chapter shall complete the  
17 training course provided or approved by the division under  
18 IC 12-17.2-2-1(10) concerning safe sleeping practices.

19 (c) A provider must achieve, at a minimum, the first level  
20 certification under the paths to quality program established by  
21 IC 12-17.2-2-14 to be eligible to participate in the federal Child  
22 Care and Development Fund voucher program.

